

# A Handle on Health



A FILM  
FROM  
IDRC

## Promoting self-reliance in handpump technology

Thousands of people in the developing world die each day for lack of access to clean water and proper sanitation. Women and children spend hours and waste energy each day in back-breaking labour, bringing home water that is often contaminated.

*A Handle on Health* shows how this burden can be lifted by actively involving the community in a new approach to the delivery of safe water. The projects featured in the film — in Ethiopia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand — demonstrate how simple, durable handpumps can be designed, tested, and manufactured in developing countries with low-cost materials, providing employment opportunities and saving scarce foreign exchange. The film also shows how women, the Third World's primary drawers of water, are helping to ensure a safe, uninterrupted supply by taking control of water delivery and are maintaining and even manufacturing their own handpumps.

The 27-minute film, produced by IDRC's Communications Division, is available in English and French. As listed below, 16-mm prints may be borrowed or purchased. Video cassettes in NTSC, PAL, or SECAM signal systems may be purchased in U-matic, VHS, or Betamax formats.



### INQUIRIES AND LOANS

#### Southeast and East Asia

IDRC  
Tanglin P.O. Box 101  
Singapore 9124  
**Republic of Singapore**  
Tel.: 2351344  
Cable: IDRECENTRE SINGAPORE  
Telex: RS 21076

#### South Asia

IDRC  
11 Jor Bagh  
New Delhi 110003  
**India**  
Tel.: 619411  
Telex: 31 61536 IDRC IN

#### Eastern and Southern Africa

IDRC  
P.O. Box 62084  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel.: 330850  
Cable: RECENTRE NAIROBI  
Telex: 23062 RECENTRE

#### Middle East and North Africa

IDRC/CRDI  
P.O. Box 14 Orman  
Giza, Cairo  
**Egypt**  
Tel.: 738760  
Telex: DEVCN UN 92520

#### West and Central Africa

CRDI  
B.P. 11007, CD Annexe  
Dakar, **Sénégal**  
Tel.: 21-42-31  
Cable: RECENTRE DAKAR  
Telex: 21674 RECENTRE SG

#### Latin America and the Caribbean

CIID  
Apartado Aéreo 53016  
Bogotá, D.E., **Colombia**  
Tel.: 2558600  
Cable: RECENTRE BOGOTA  
Telex: 45366

#### Other regions

IDRC  
Communications Division  
P.O. Box 8500  
Ottawa, Ontario  
**Canada**  
K1G 3H9  
Tel.: (613) 236-6163  
Cable: RECENTRE OTTAWA  
Telex: 053-3753

### PURCHASES

IDRC  
Communications Division  
(See Ottawa address.)

*A Handle on Health* can also be borrowed from some Canadian Embassies or High Commissions in developing countries.